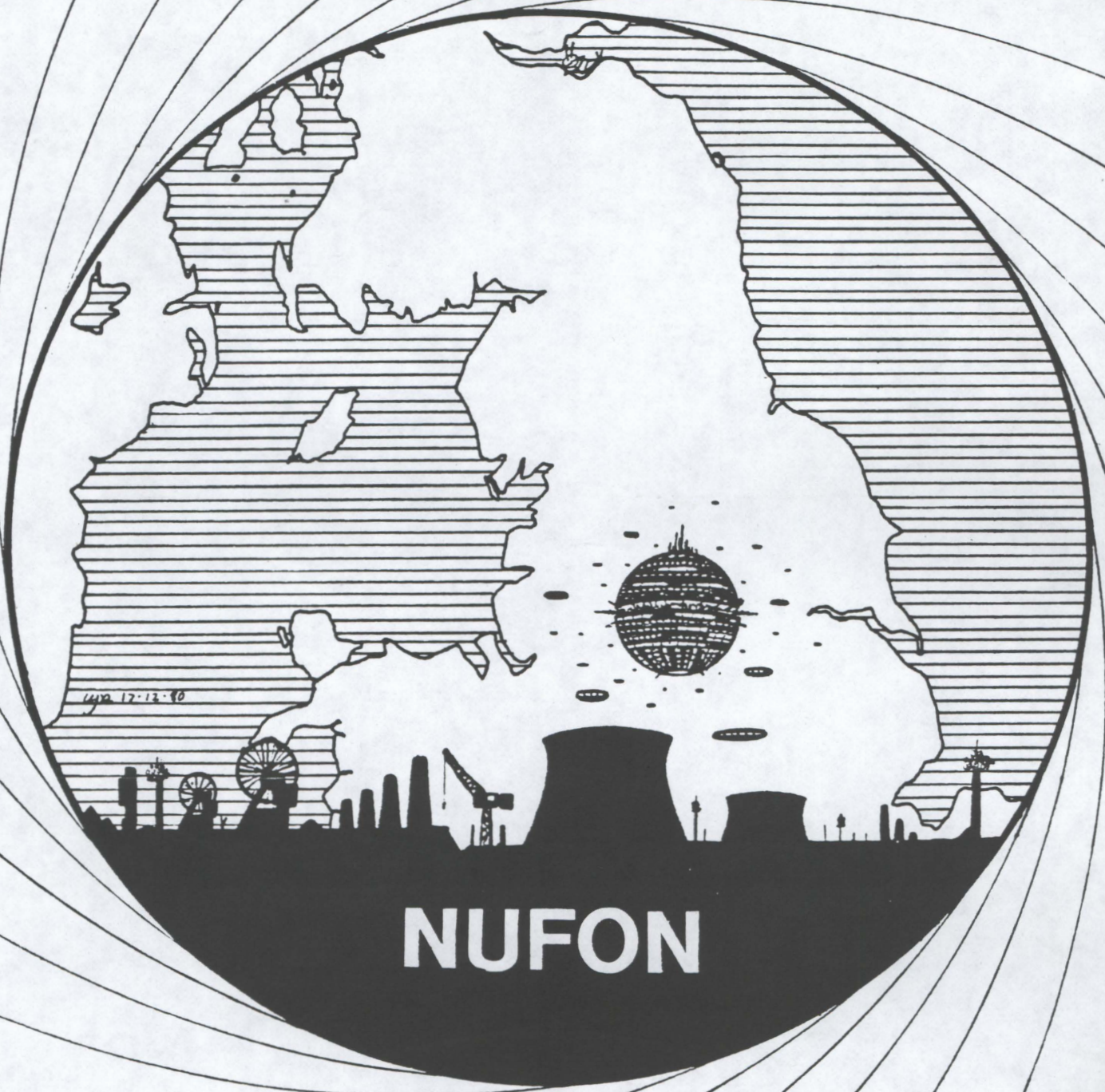


NORTHERN UFO NEWS



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EDITORIAL: Cracking the cover-up

It is a perennial problem of the UFO mythos. Is there a cover-up? That, of course, is a very good question. Champion of the "get the MOD" campaign (so far as Britain is concerned) is Lord Clancatty, or UFO writer Brinsley Le Poer Trench as he is otherwise known. A nice man. A sincere man. A peer of the realm, with a body of peers behind him (the House of Lords UFO Study Group). Surely if anyone can crack the cover-up it has to be him..... doesn't it?

A great deal depends, of course, on whether there is a cover-up. Most ufologists (without thinking too much about it) insist there must be. The UFO subject is to them clearly so important it has to be veiled in the greatest smokescreen government has ever conceived. On this basis we know more about things such as nuclear weapon deployment than we allegedly do about government machinations regarding UFOs. Those who move beyond this stage (at which Lord C resides) see the rather shaky nature of the argument. But then again those who (I think) are slowly beginning to grasp the true complexity of the UFO enigma must go back to an interim position. One must conclude (unless one grants our ministers a degree of ineptitude I prefer not to contemplate) that someone, somewhere, is surely doing something.

I recall a fateful quote I wrung out of the MOD in a lengthy exchange (reproduced in FSR three years ago) before they started to ignore my pesky letters (at least they stopped answering them!) ... 'The position in this country is not dissimilar to that adopted by the French government' The French, of course, sponsor a team of paid scientists at the Space Centre in Toulouse, where rumour (and the few French language memos of theirs I have seen) has it that they are well on their way to proving the alien origin of UFOs Not dissimilar eh??

In the USA, the Freedom of Information Bill and the legal fight by CAUSE (Citizens Against UFO Secrecy) has produced a mass of documentation giving more than a few broad hints and some pretty certain facts that the US government (at many levels) have constantly taken UFOs very seriously.... and this did not stop when the Air Force shut up shop after the negative Condon report in 1969... very far from it! In the light of what these battles have revealed I am (should I say) less unconvinced that there may be substance behind the murky shadows of those crashed saucer stories..... and a new twist in the Rendlesham Forest affair (see CASE HISTORIES 1) even suggests we now have our very own captured British hardware! The American efforts to get to 1000 still hidden documents has run into veto after veto. Only on March 7 the latest attempt failed when the US Supreme court decided that the files of the National Security Agency, regarding UFOs, must not be made public. They did this not on the basis of having seen them. The highest court in the land were only allowed to see a many page summary of what was their theme! If I didn't know better I would say someone had something pretty big to hide.

And so to Britain and, as one British daily of ill repute put it, "Lord Crackpot" and his efforts to get to the truth. All power to his struggle say I. But will he get anywhere? He has managed to get the MOD to admit to the existence of 600 sightings for 1981 (NUFON received less than a tenth of that number!). And also an admission that they have rather conveniently "lost" all UFO documents prior to 1967. Someone else I know, applying the 30 year rule which should release secret documents to the public, applied in 1981 for all files to 1951 (which he had earlier been told would be open to him then). The MOD said that all files to 1955 had been put on a single document labelled "UFO files up to 1955"... so come back in 1985.... and get told what I wonder. I can guess.

Something certainly does appear to be amiss. For it would be oh so easy for the MOD (or NSA) to clear up the confusion by issuing something (edited none harmful papers that do not compromise the defence of the land).... Unless, of course, the defence of the land is too intimately bound up with the whole UFO business. It makes you wonder. But what saddens me is the awful publicity Lord C attracts. It is not his fault. But he is far from the ideal front man for this campaign. His hole in the head (sorry pole) fiasco leaves him cannon fodder for a media hardly noted for its charity to ufology * Surely the time has come for serious ufologists in Britain to get together (like CAUSE) and fight for the truth (whatever it is). Brinsley should not have to struggle against all the odds out on his own.

*Eg... The BBC Called me today... "We're doing a new Terry Wogan magazine show and we want to do a spot on UFOs"... Oh yes, says I. "We want you to suggest someone... but not someone serious. We're going to make a bit of a fool of them." Guess what I told them!

CODE OF PRACTICE FINALLY LAUNCHED.... The Code of Practice for UFO investigators was finally thrashed out at a meeting in Bristol on February 20. The full draft of the finalised code was published as a central pull-out insert in BUFORA BULLETIN 003. Copies of the Code are available very cheaply from BUFORA (c/o Arnold West 16 Southway Burgess Hill Sussex RH15 9ST). A "declaration" form is being attached to all copies. From BUFORA's point of view the intention is as follows:

All accredited investigators working on behalf of BUFORA will be asked to sign the declaration. A copy of this will be kept by them and attached to their copy of the code. The other copy will be held by the BUFORA NIC. An administrative board has been set up by the groups who formulated the code (at present this involves BUFORA, UFOIN, PROBE, SCUFORI and MUFORA...but others may well be added in due course). This will meet to decide any cases of breach of code brought to its notice. In this way the principles and spirit of the code will be enforced.

Of course, this board cannot dictate to groups who do not subscribe to the code and some (eg NUFOIS) have suggested this is the primary weakness. But surely it is up to those of us who care about ufology to set an example by our own deeds. Not only will this (hopefully) make others want to ascribe to our ideals, but it should encourage the public that we (as ufologists) are concerned with not only improving standards but with their welfare and not just facts. Of course, for the code to be a success it must be promoted. It is now up to you to use your media channels to promote the existence of this code of practice..... and I hope every NUFON group will now agree to personally subscribe to the principles it sets out.

NEWS ** The British UFO Society (BUFOS) appear to be graduating from their image of a T-shirt sales shop. They have installed Norman Oliver as Investigations Chief and have a new dynamic chairman in the form of Brian Everton (85 Chelford Crescent, High Acres, Kingswinford, West Midlands). On Sunday, JUNE 20 they hold an afternoon public seminar involving Lord Clancarty at the Digbeth Civic Hall (1.00 to 6.00 pm). £1 admission. There are rumours of a relationship with the FUFOR/MAPIT set-up (now OSEAP)

****** Graham Birdsall (CONTACT investigator) has launched the Yorkshire UFO Society from 12 Miles Hill St Leeds LS7 2EQ. It claims to have 30 members.

****** There may still be a few places left at the MUFORA seminar on the Alan Godfrey abduction case (central Manchester, May 15). The video-tapes of the hypnosis sessions will be shown. Interested people are advised to contact Peter Warrington at his new address. (see below):

5 North Avenue Burnage Manchester M19 2WR Tel: 061-225-3404

****** Mark Brown (18 York Place Agar Nook Coakville Leics LE6 3TH) is starting a research project into the piezo-electric effects, fault zones, and mystery lights. This follows many reports of LITS above Leicester coal mine areas. He would like to hear from anyone willing to help out, especially anyone living in another part of the country where there are fault zones.

****** For all those who fear the inevitable (like me!) watch out for the newly announced END TIMES BULLETIN. Predictions and movements regarding the end of the world. Editor is Kevin McClure (of COMMON GROUND fame). First two issues are June and Sept at £1, the two....14 Northfold Rd Knighton Leicester LE3 2YG

****** EARTHLINK announce changes in their subscription rates. Now 75p per issue and £3 for a 4 issue sub. This brings you a large and varied selection of items:-
16 Raydons Rd Dagenham Essex RM9 5JR

****** Finally, if you fancy a trip this Summer to the sun and have more money than me (a lot more I expect you'll need!) then JERUCON 82 might appeal. A 5 day event on science-fiction, speculative science and UFOs at the Diplomat Hotel, Jerusalem.... June 27 to July 2. Only around £160 (without your air fare!)...those rich enough should inquire at: JERUCON 82 PO Box 394 Tel Aviv 61003 ISRAEL

Down to earth.... certainly in terms of price! Just £4 (£3 ASSAP/BUFORA members) a one day seminar on "exchanging information" (media utilisation for paranormal and UFO researchers). Practical experiments and lectures. Details from:- Dennis Bury at 47 Mayfield Rd London N8. Venue NORTH LONDON. Date JUNE 12 (10.30 to 18.30)

STRANGE WORLDS OF THE QUANTUM... Dr Paul Davies has a super book just out as an Abacus paperback "OTHER WORLDS" (£2.90) It is a scientific look at the quantum theory of matter, very entertainingly written for the laymen. It sets out the amazing revolution in physics during the past 50 years. Science is coming closer and closer towards the paranormal and there are more than a few clues in here that will be of use to theoretical ufologists. The universe is queerer than we think (much queerer!)

NUFON REPORT NUMBERING.... Following requests from Syd Henley, in charge of files at Nottingham, the numbering system as from all 1982 cases is to be altered to give information on date...eg 82-01-23 will be the file number for a case occurring on January 23 1982. All other code data remains as per UFO STUDY.

LEVITATION CARE OF A UFO! Bangor, N.Ireland Autumn 1976

This story comes to me direct from the witness, who is a civil servant. It is hoped that more information will be procured locally. The witness claims that this is just the strangest of several UFO incidents that have occurred to him.

The young man was looking after his younger brother who normally is rebellious about going to bed. On this occasion, however, he went on his own - which was apparently odd. Then the house became stifling hot (no heating was on) and witness went up to the bathroom. Suddenly the OZ FACTOR took over (this is my term for the curiously repetitive effects which accompany close encounter cases). Despite being adjacent to a busy dual carriageway, all sound disappeared. The silence was un-nerving. A few moments later (after using the bathroom) he looked out at the road through open blinds in the bedroom. A large white oval light was hovering above the road. As he tried to find a logical explanation, running through several possibilities, it suddenly grew much bigger and a ray or flash of light ("the purest white I've ever seen") shot out from it and struck him. It took a few seconds to reach him (ie it seems to be a solid beam - like the Austrian "snail feelers" of UFO fame). He was blinded by it and felt himself thrown back hard against the wall riased about one foot off the ground! He was held there paralysed for about 10 seconds (although it felt like hours) with bright lights flashing in front of his eyes (a retinal effect from the light?). He then felt himself sliding to the floor and regained his senses (still partially paralysed). Looking at the window he saw the light climbing away at a 45 degree angle. Next day he checked the grass outside. It seemed to be flattened in a circular patch.

Readers may have noted the similarity with the Marion Sunderland experience (see ALIEN CONTACT) where she had a bedroom encounter similar to this. NUN FEB 1980 also features a Yorkshire case of a railman levitated by a UFO.

75-160 Spring 1975 Kingswinford, West Midlands Inv: Mark Pritchard

A 55 yr old woman (at the time) was eating breakfast at 07.15 when she saw what she took to be a low funny-shaped brown cloud. It moved in the direction of her home and was now seen to be clearly too low. As it approached the wall at the rear of the garden it was now egg-shaped and purplish, but as it moved onto the lawn (hovering about one foot above) it became milky white with a centre that was spiralling or oscillating. It had no apparent effect on the grass, but when it stopped (just in front of the greenhouse - obscuring it in fact) it caused bushes at the rear to move.



There was then a green igloo shape in the position where the object had been and a flash of white light shot from the top of it. The woman felt as if she were glued to this and was unable to take her eyes off it. Determined now to get a better look she went through into the kitchen and out into the garden. There was no sign of it nor had it left any traces. Mark suggests that perhaps the woman had observed morning mist distorted through the double-glazing. Alternately this may have been the wind tornado effects we have seen in other cases (eg the Apperley Dene, Northumbria, case from 1977...see UFOs: A British Viewpoint). Or an insect swarm, maybe?

82-01-14. Todmorden, W. Yorks MUFORA Investigation. "A RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE?"

Four men (aged between late 20's and early 30's) were talking in the open at this town (scene of the Alan Godfrey abduction...indeed Alan passed this case on to us after the witnesses called the police and asked to speak to him). MUFORA has interviewed two of the men (the other two wish not to talk about it any more). They tell of how on this night 01.00 on JAN 14 1982 they saw a light appear in the NE over the hillside. It descended in a looping arc and came to within 200 ft, swooping across and below the line of hills and disappearing SW in the direction of Bacup. It moved slowly and in complete silence and was in view for about 2 mins. At closest approach it was the approximate size of the full moon. The witnesses got



a good look at it. Essentially it was a white sphere with two other lights associated. The men differ as to the colour and configuration of these, but say they were at the front. One man says he saw an infrastructure (like ship's rigging) below the sphere. The other man did not. Both were convinced this was nothing explicable and the encounter had a deep effect on one of the men (and to a lesser extent on the other). One described it as the closest thing he had ever had to a religious revelation. It opened up their way to viewing life in its whole. One man is convinced the UFO was sent to raise his consciousness. Since the experience both have developed a very deep interest in UFOs and have read dozens of books in as many weeks. A progress watch is being kept on developments, as the man who claims the "illumination" has described a number of childhood experiences and strange UFO-orientated nightmares.

"I never believed in them...but once I saw what I saw it changed my life".

82: 01-23 Rochdale, Gtr Manchester MUFORA Investigation

Jeff Garfield (to whom the quote above is attributable) is a council pipelayer. Down to earth. Typical Lancashire man. On JAN 23 at 18.30 he had a CEL with a phenomenon he had never believed in and, as he says, it changed his life. He is now deeply involved, concerned for nuclear disarmament, and so concerned for animal welfare his workmates stare in amazement whilst he picks worms out of the ground to stop them being hurt by the picks and shovels! He was in his car with his young son when his son spotted something odd in the sky. At first Jeff thought it was just a star, but then it "went out" and he could see a dark shape turning in the sky. At the time they were on a busy road in the urban area near Rochdale centre. Traffic was all around. The thing now came down and passed right over them at an incredibly slow speed. The man (who is a rugby player) says it was the size of a rugby ball at arms length. It was so enormous he cannot



understand why the whole town did not see it...but only one other car stopped (right in front of them). Jeff and his boy got out and watched as the thing took 4 minutes to pass over and then several more minutes to move away (as a light). Whilst on top of them it was shaped like a cricket bat and a mass of lights (white on the underside and red and green round the rim). He estimates it was no higher than a few hundred feet (his boy says the height of a rooftop). Yet it was totally silent. He says he just cannot describe the incredible sight of this thing moving so low, so big and so slowly. The case is, of course, a precise rerun of the classic MUFORA case from by the Oil Refinery at Carrington in 1977 (published in FSR 24 No 4) and a May 81 case from Essex not yet published by reported on to UFOIN by Andy Collins and Bob Easton. There are numerous parallels between these cases - the question, of course, is what could this possibly be. This witness impressed MUFORA more than most in recent years. Possibly relevant background information is that whilst a child he had experiences which he has taught himself to believe must have been hallucinations, but which seemed real. For example he saw angels in his bedroom. Jeff said, "I don't care if the top scientist on earth said it was a jumbo jet I wouldn't believe them. No way on earth. No moving thing on earth can move that slow."

82: 02-10 Heywood, Greater Manchester MUFORA Investigation

The Heywood Advertiser of 18 Feb carried a story claiming that a group of women had seen an orange ball of light, buzzing and moving low along the roadside. It disturbed dogs as it did so. It also referred to the Merseyside UFO Investigation Team (???) who supposedly had called them because of a sighting they had in Chorlton, Manchester, as part of a major flap in the city! MUFORA were naturally surprised. Never having heard of the group and residing themselves in Manchester (Peter Warrington in Chorlton even!) we had no knowledge of this supposed flap! Investigation by Fraud Squad investigator Norman Collinson soon revealed the reason. The story was a total hoax...fabricated by the newspaper. What was quite a big story was a none-event. A disgraceful piece of cheap journalism...and just warning to all those who take note of what they read in the papers.

82: 02-14 Limavady, N.Ireland FEB 14 19.15

Two astronomers in their twenties were looking through telescope and binoculars at satellites when two "ghost-like" yellow ovals, fuzzy at the edges, appeared and moved slowly and silently across the sky. Estimated height 300 ft. Estimated size that of a fist at arms length. Through binoculars they looked like discs. A helicopter appeared a few moments later, circled the area, and left in the same direction.